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Agenda item 99

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed **Amaziane** (Morocco)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 24th, 25th, 30th and 41st meetings, on 25 and 31 October and on 6 December 2000. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/55/SR.24, 25, 30 and 41). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 7th meetings, on 2, 3 and 5 October (see A/C.2/55/SR.3-7).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (A/55/407);
 - (b) Letter dated 5 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly, transmitting the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000 (A/55/74);
 - (c) Letter dated 28 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt and Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the joint communiqué of the Tenth Summit of the Group of Fifteen, held at Cairo on 19 and 20 June 2000 (A/55/139-E/2000/93);



(d) Letter dated 1 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué Okinawa 2000 adopted by the Group of Eight on 23 July 2000 (A/55/257-S/2000/766);

(e) Letter dated 17 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/310);

(f) Letter dated 8 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting, inter alia, the Brasilia communiqué adopted on 1 September 2000 by the Presidents of the South American countries (A/55/375).

4. At the 24th meeting, on 25 October, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (see A/C.2/55/SR.24).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/55/L.18 and A/C.2/55/L. 51

5. At the 30th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund for Poverty Eradication" (A/C.2/55/L.18), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

"Recalling also its resolution 50/107 of 20 September 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first Decade of the United Nations for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),

"Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

"Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized, others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, and there is increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

"Also recognizing that for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

"Bearing in mind the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the Political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalized world' (Geneva, 26-30 June 2000),

"Bearing in mind also the Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, particularly section III, 'Development and poverty eradication', and its emphasis on solidarity as a fundamental and universal value in international relations in the twenty-first century,

"Recalling the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

"Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and to ensure basic social protection,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),

"1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger;

"2. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990, as well as the Millennium Declaration, as they relate to the eradication of poverty;

"3. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

"4. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

"5. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international

conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication by fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, and an efficient and accountable public service and administration;

"6. *Calls upon* all Governments to take concrete action to formulate and implement their national poverty alleviation strategies with a view to achieving the goal of halving by 2015 the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger;

"7. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, including by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized in the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

"8. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

"9. *Calls upon* the developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

"10. *Decides* to establish a World Solidarity Fund for Poverty Eradication, which will contribute to the eradication of poverty and to the promotion of social and human development in the poorest regions of the world;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary consultations with Member States and all relevant stakeholders on the modalities and operations of the Fund, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of the contributions;

"12. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and to facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular by developing countries, on favourable terms,

including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

"13. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education and training and basic education in the empowerment of those living in poverty;

"14. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance cooperation and, in this regard, encourages the entities of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and other partners in development, to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

"15. *Welcomes also* the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

"16. *Urges* the implementation of the enhanced programme of assistance to heavily indebted poor countries without delay and the cancellation of all the official bilateral debt of those countries in return for their making a demonstrable commitment to poverty reduction as part of their overall development strategy;

"17. *Recognizes* the difficulties of heavily indebted middle-income developing countries and other heavily indebted middle-income countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of greater liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment, including, as appropriate, debt-reduction measures that will assist them in their efforts to combat poverty effectively;

"18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled 'Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)'."

6. At the 41st meeting, on 6 December, the Chairman of the Committee, on behalf of the Vice-Chairman, Navid Hanif (Pakistan), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication" (A/C.2/55/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chairman on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.18.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.51 (see para. 9).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.51, draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.18 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 50/107 of 20 September 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), as well as the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Also recognizing that for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

Bearing in mind the Copenhagen Declaration¹ and Programme of Action² adopted by the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the Political Declaration³ adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalized world", held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000, as well as the objectives of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

¹ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-24/2, annex, sect. 1.

Bearing in mind also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁴ adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, particularly section III, "Development and poverty eradication", and its emphasis on solidarity as a fundamental value in international relations in the twenty-first century,

Recalling the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and to ensure basic social protection,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),⁵

1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation;

2. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as they relate to the eradication of poverty, with a view to achieving tangible results;

3. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

4. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, taking into account the importance of sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural development, productive employment, population, environment, freshwater, food security and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and to strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic development;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control by the poor over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

⁴ Resolution 55/2.

⁵ A/55/407.

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

7. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, bearing in mind the relationship between all human rights and development, and an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

8. *Reaffirms*, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country; it also depends on good governance at the international level, on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and on commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, including the target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which requires strengthening of national action and international cooperation;

10. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, including by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized from the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

11. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development

assistance and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

13. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, including in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

14. *Welcomes favourably* the proposal submitted regarding the establishment of a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication, which will contribute to the eradication of poverty and to the promotion of social and human development in the poorest regions of the world, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary consultations with Member States and all relevant stakeholders on this issue, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of the contributions, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

15. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

16. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

17. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education, and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty and, in this context, welcomes the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum held at Dakar from 26 to 28 April 2000, including the reconfirmation of the mandate of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to coordinate Education for All partners and maintain their collective momentum, and invites the organs and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote the inclusion of education in anti-poverty strategies;

18. *Recalls* the commitments of the United Nations conferences and summits to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to promote universal primary education in all countries by 2015 and, in this regard, urges Member States to take immediate measures to remove obstacles to young girls' school attendance and to reduce drop-out rates;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination and, in this regard, encourages the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment of interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

21. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries by strengthening the relevant commitments through partnerships as agreed by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, and, in this regard, welcomes the convening of a special session of the General Assembly to review and address the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects;

22. *Urges* the implementation of the enhanced programme of debt relief to the heavily indebted poor countries without delay and the cancellation of all the official bilateral debt of those countries, in the context of poverty eradication, in return for their making a demonstrable commitment to poverty reduction as part of their overall development strategy;

23. *Recognizes* the difficulties of heavily indebted middle-income developing countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of greater liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment through various national and international measures designed to assist these countries to make their debt burden sustainable in the long term and to combat poverty effectively;

24. *Encourages* the continuing examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report containing an evaluation of progress made towards achieving the goals of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), as well as in the achievement of the 2015 targets on poverty reduction, and recommendations for further action to achieve the 2015 targets, including the identification of resource requirements and possible sources of funding;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".



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Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Report of the Second Committee

Corrigendum

1. The title of the report should read as above.
2. Paragraph 1

The agenda item **should read** "Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)"





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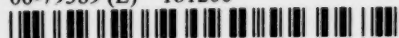
Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed **Amaziane** (Morocco)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.
2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 22nd, 23rd, 30th, 34th, 35th and 42nd meetings, on 24 and 31 October, 15 and 20 November and 8 December 2000. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/55/SR. 22, 23, 30, 34, 35 and 42). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 7th meetings, on 2, 3 and 5 October (see A/C.2/55/SR.3-7).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (A/55/381);
 - (b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the high-level panel of experts on information and communication technology (A/55/75-E/2000/55);
 - (c) Letter dated 5 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly, transmitting the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000 (A/55/74);



(d) Letter dated 11 July 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/133-S/2000/682);

(e) Letter dated 28 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt and Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the joint communiqué of the tenth Summit of the Group of Fifteen, held at Cairo on 19 and 20 June 2000 (A/55/139-E/2000/93);

(f) Letter dated 17 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Finance Ministers of the Group of Seven adopted at their meeting held at Fukuoka, Japan on 8 July 2000 (A/55/157-E/2000/101);

(g) Letter dated 1 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué Okinawa 2000 adopted by the Group of Eight on 23 July 2000 (A/55/257-S/2000/766);

(h) Letter dated 1 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement adopted by the Group of Seven at the summit meeting held in Okinawa, Japan, from 21 to 23 July 2000 (A/55/260-E/2000/108);

(i) Letter dated 18 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/309);

(j) Letter dated 17 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/310);

(k) Letter dated 8 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting, inter alia, the Brasilia communiqué adopted on 1 September 2000 by the Presidents of the South American countries (A/55/375);

(l) Letter dated 10 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of India and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/473);

(m) Letter dated 20 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/636);

(n) Letter dated 19 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/55/8);

(o) Letter dated 24 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/55/9).

4. At the 22nd meeting, on 24 October, an introductory statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 24 October, the Director of the Division for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made concluding remarks.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.16

6. At the 30th meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Romania, on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine, subsequently joined by Canada, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Fiji, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Thailand and Slovenia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization" (A/C.2/55/L.16).

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement (see A/C.2/55/SR.30).

8. At its 34th meeting, on 15 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.16 (see para. 14, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/55/L.36 and A/C.2/55/L.63

9. At the 35th meeting, on 20 November, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/55/L.36), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998 and 54/231 of 22 December 1999,

"Recalling also the plan of action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,

"Reaffirming the Declaration of the South Summit and the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,

"Recalling the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council, held in New York from 5 to 7 July 2000,

"Noting with appreciation Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/29, in which the Council called for the establishment of a United Nations task force on information and communication technology,

"Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary General,

"Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

"Expressing concern over the exclusion of a large number of developing countries from the benefits of globalization, the increasing vulnerability of those developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the accentuation of the income and technological gap between developed and developing countries,

"Stressing that the economic and social development policies of the developing countries can yield better results with international support and with the creation of an enabling international economic environment,

"Emphasizing that the inherent imbalances and asymmetries in the international finance, trade, technology and investment regimes have further aggravated the negative impact of globalization on developing countries,

"Noting with serious concern that the benefits of existing multilateral trading system have eluded the developing countries,

"Underlining the need for the reform of the international financial architecture with a view to promoting the effective and broad-based participation of developing countries in decision-making and to ensuring the financing of development and financial stability,

"Underscoring the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries,

"Reiterating that the United Nations is in a unique position, as a universal forum, to promote equitable, just and fair sharing in the benefits of globalization,

"1. Reaffirms that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in providing policy guidance on global development issues, particularly in the context of globalization and interdependence;

"2. Re-emphasizes the urgency of coordinated action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization to ensure even and wide sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

"3. Calls for effective addressing of globalization through, inter alia, the democratization of international economic and financial policy decision-making, the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and developmental issues by international institutions, the reform of the international financial system and progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access in areas and for products of particular interest to developing countries, and to this end for close cooperation and coordination between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization;

"4. *Calls upon* the developed countries, in particular the major developed economies, to enhance coherence among their financial, investment, trade and development cooperation policies, with a view to substantially increasing their support for the development of developing countries;

"5. *Urges* the international community to promote international development cooperation based on growth, stability and equity with the full participation of developing countries in the globalizing world economy;

"6. *Also urges* the international community to elaborate development strategies and policies that aim at the creation of an enabling international economic environment as well as address the endemic problems of external debt and the transfer of resources, financial vulnerability, declining terms of trade and restricted access to developed country markets;

"7. *Strongly urges* the international community to take all necessary measures, including enhanced official development assistance, finding a durable solution to the external debt problem, market access, capacity-building, the transfer of knowledge and technology and foreign direct investment in order to achieve the sustainable development of Africa and to promote the participation of all African countries in the global economy;

"8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre and other multilateral and bilateral efforts to help developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries, in addressing their specific concerns within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade and policy, in the improvement of trade efficiency and policies and trade in services, and in electronic commerce;

"9. *Emphasizes* the technology-led dimension of globalization and the need to promote universal access to information and communication technology to enable the developing countries to benefit effectively from globalization by full and effective integration in the emerging global information network;

"10. *Calls upon* the United Nations to strengthen collaboration among various organizations of the system in supporting country strategies for Internet development, information management, content development, human resource training and other information and communication technology activities for development;

"11. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for inclusion, as appropriation, in national and regional capacity-building programmes of the United Nations system, the regional commissions, the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of a strong component oriented towards assisting the developing countries in the area of information and communication technology, in accordance with priorities of national country programmes;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a commission of eminent personalities with due regard to geographical representation to prepare, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a comprehensive, analytical and action-oriented study on

the impact of globalization on economic growth and employment, as well as the widening income, knowledge and technology gap and the deepening poverty, the effects of the increasing interdependence between trade, finance, knowledge, technology and investment in development, and the impact of imbalance and asymmetries in the international system on development prospects of developing countries, and to suggest concrete measures or a framework to promote development in the context of globalization and interdependence and the role that the United Nations should play to this end;

"13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence'."

10. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mauricio Escanero (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution also entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/55/L.63), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.63 (see para. 14, draft resolution II).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.63, draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.36 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

13. At its 42nd meeting, on 8 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the high-level panel of experts on information and communication technology (A/55/75-E/2000/55) (see para. 15).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

14. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Charter signed at the summit meeting at Yalta on 5 June 1998, which transformed the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization into a regional economic organization with a legal identity on the international scene, and the Istanbul Summit Declaration adopted on 17 November 1999 by the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization confirmed the commitment of the Organization to the promotion of effective economic, social and democratic reforms in the region by application of the pragmatic concept that economic cooperation is an effective confidence-building measure,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the Istanbul Summit Declaration adopted on 17 November 1999 by the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and of the desirability expressed therein of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Secretariat and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;
2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake consultations with the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the two Secretariats;
3. *Also invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to initiate consultations and programmes with that Organization and its associated institutions for the attainment of their objectives;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;
5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

Draft resolution II

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998 and 54/231 of 22 December 1999,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,¹

¹ Resolution 55/2.

Recalling further the plan of action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,²

Taking note of the Declaration of the South Summit and the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,³

Recalling the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council, held in New York from 5 to 7 July 2000,⁴

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/29 of 28 July 2000, in which the Council called for the establishment of a United Nations information and communication technologies task force,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General,⁵

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Expressing concern about the marginalization of a large number of developing countries from the benefits of globalization, the additional vulnerability of those developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the general accentuation of the income and technological gap between developed and developing countries, as well as within countries,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, development and the improvement of living standards around the world, and recognizing also that some countries have made progress in successfully adapting to the changes and have benefited from globalization,

Recognizing also the importance of appropriate policy responses at the national level by all countries to the challenges of globalization, in particular by pursuing sound macroeconomic and social policies, noting the need for support from the international community for the efforts of the least developed countries, in particular, to improve their institutional and management capacities, and also recognizing that all countries should pursue policies conducive to economic growth and to promoting a favourable global economic environment,

Stressing that such national macroeconomic and social policies can yield better results with international support and with an enabling international economic environment,

Emphasizing the need to address those imbalances and asymmetries in international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have a negative impact on development prospects for developing countries with a view to minimizing those impacts,

² TD/390, part II.

³ A/55/74, annexes I and II.

⁴ A/55/3, chap. III, para. 17. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

⁵ A/55/381.

Noting with serious concern that a large number of developing countries have not yet been able to reap the full benefits of the existing multilateral trading system, and underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy so as to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

Stressing that the process of reform for a strengthened and stable international financial architecture should be based on broad participation in a genuine multilateral approach, involving all members of the international community, to ensure that the diverse needs and interests of all countries are adequately represented,

Underlining the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universal forum, is in a unique position to achieve international cooperation in addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence, including, in particular, promoting a more equitable sharing of the benefits of globalization,

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and wide sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

3. *Calls* for effective addressing of globalization through, inter alia, making the decision-making process of international economic and financial policy more participatory, especially with regard to developing countries, the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and developmental issues by the relevant international institutions, the continuation of a wide range of reforms in the international financial system and further progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access in areas and for products of particular interest to developing countries, and, to this end, also calls for coherence and close cooperation between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization;

4. *Calls upon* all countries, in particular the major developed economies, to enhance coherence among their financial, investment, trade and development cooperation policies, with a view to enhancing the development prospects of developing countries;

5. *Stresses* the importance, at the national level, of maintaining sound macroeconomic policies and developing effective institutional and regulatory frameworks and human resources, so as to realize the mutually reinforcing

objectives of poverty eradication and development, including through national poverty reduction strategies;

6. *Urges* the international community to promote international development cooperation aimed at enhancing growth, stability, equity and the participation of developing countries in the globalizing world economy;

7. *Encourages* developing countries to continue to pursue appropriate development policies to promote economic development and poverty eradication, and, in this regard, invites the international community to pursue strategies that support those policies through continued efforts to address the problems of market access, persistent external debt, transfer of resources, financial vulnerability and declining terms of trade;

8. *Strongly urges* the international community to take all necessary and appropriate measures, including support for structural and macroeconomic reform, foreign direct investment, enhanced official development assistance, the search for a durable solution to the external debt problem, market access, capacity-building and the dissemination of knowledge and technology, in order to achieve the sustainable development of Africa and to promote the participation of all African countries in the global economy;

9. *Reaffirms its resolve* to give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the United Nations and thereby to enhance opportunities and offset the negative economic and social consequences of globalization;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre and other multilateral and bilateral efforts to help developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries, in addressing their specific concerns within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade and policy, in the improvement of trade efficiency and policies and trade in services, and in electronic commerce;

11. *Stresses* the need for good governance within each country as well as at the international level;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

13. *Emphasizes also* the technology-led dimension of globalization and the need to promote universal access to knowledge and information as well as the need to strive to bridge the digital divide and to bring information and communication technologies to the service of development and all the peoples of the world so as to enable the developing countries and the countries with economies in transition to benefit effectively from globalization by full and effective integration into the emerging global information network;

14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to continue the ongoing consultations on the establishment of the United Nations information and communication technologies task force, and looks forward to the submission to the

Economic and Social Council of the report requested by the Council in its resolution 2000/29;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations, an analytical report on the effect of increasing linkages and interdependencies among trade, finance, knowledge, technology and investment on growth and development in the context of globalization, containing action-oriented recommendations, including on appropriate development strategies at both the national and international levels, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

* * *

15. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the high-level panel of experts on information and communication technology

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the high-level panel of experts on information and communication technology.⁶

⁶ A/55/75-E/2000/55.